

# Regional Information Centers

Goals • Accomplishments • Challenges



NEW YORK STATE

## REGIONAL INFORMATION CENTERS



# 12<sup>NYS</sup> RICs Shared Goals

The diagram below highlights the 12 Regional Information Centers' shared goals for the 2015-2016 school year. The pages that follow will summarize 2014-2015 accomplishments and 2015-2016 goals. Additionally, guiding questions are included.

The questions will support strategic planning related to challenging initiatives.



**Tech-Rich  
Schools**



**Data-Driven  
Instruction**



**Data Security  
& Privacy**



**High-Quality  
Services**



**Strategic  
Partnerships**



**Economies  
of Scale**



## Tech-Rich Schools

### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Assisted NYSED in implementing the \$87M School Technology Voucher Program (NYS-STVP). The program assisted eligible schools in supporting technology-rich learning.
- Assisted districts in implementing computer-based PARCC field tests.
- Developed a \$12M Mobile IT Device RTTT Program. This program will assist New York State districts in providing increased access to instructional technology.
- Provided state leadership related to the Smart Schools Initiative.
- Supported the development and implementation of the NYS Technology Plan Survey.
- Provided feedback and support to enhance regional 793 Technology Plans and related processes.

### 2015-2016 Goals

- Work in conjunction with members of the State Education Department in order to enhance state, regional and local technology plans and related processes.
- Provide assistance to the Smart Schools Review Board and New York State school districts, as the state implements the Smart Schools Bond Act.
- Continue to partner with NYSED in order to provide districts with support related to computer-based testing initiatives.
- Analyze service challenges and opportunities associated with transitioning to next-generation K-12 assessments.

### Guiding Questions

- NYSED requested the RICs develop a Regents level CBT service. RICs have requested additional guidance related to this request. How can the RICs best support NYS CBT initiatives?





### Data-Driven Instruction

#### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Working in conjunction with the District Superintendents and NYSED, developed and implemented the Common Data Views Initiative. This initiative provides educators, across the state, with access to a common data analysis package.
- Working in conjunction with NYSED, provided districts with access to NYS 3-8 Math and ELA data sooner than in previous years in order to support staff development and planning.

#### 2015-2016 Goals

- Monitor, enhance and expand the RICs' Common Data Views Initiative.
- Develop a strategic plan related to data analysis dashboard services.
- Continue to assist NYSED in communicating important information related to NYS data, assessment, and accountability initiatives.

#### Guiding Questions

- How can the Regional Information Centers improve districts ability to effectively use student performance data to make instructional decisions?
- How can we expand the Common Data Views Initiative and what other work can we do to support equitable access to quality resources?
- This Spring, many districts experienced a significant growth in the number of students who refused to take the NYS 3-8 Math and ELA Tests. How does this impact our work?
- What work are and/or should the RICs be doing related to projective student performance data analysis?



## Data Security & Privacy

### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Developed and implemented a Data and Identity Program. The purpose of the program is to enhance data integration, identity federation and data security practices.
- Developed a RIC Data Centers RTTT Program. The purpose of the program is to enhance the 12 regional data centers in order to strengthen the private and secure environments that house New York State student data.

### 2015-2016 Goals

- Monitor, expand and refine the data integration, federation, and security state initiatives that were implemented during the 2014-2015 school year.
- Work in conjunction with the NYS Chief Privacy Officer to provide leadership related to Education Law 2-D.

### Guiding Questions

- Now that the New York State-Regional Information Centers Data and Identity Contract has been awarded, what messaging should be done related to the program?
- What work scope and/or deliverables should be included in a \$2 million contract extension?



## High-Quality Services

### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Several centers implemented SOC audits in order to assess and improve local data privacy and security controls. Lessons learned from SOC audits and NYS Comptroller audits were shared with the collective.
- As the NYSED will not continue to fund the SMS Certification Center, examining the impact of the center in order to make strategic decisions.
- Working collaboratively to explore how RICs can best support districts in leveraging Smart School funds.

### 2015-2016 Goals

- Continue to form service partnerships and encourage specialization around products and services, as appropriate.

### Guiding Questions

- How might RICs collaborate more effectively, as we strive towards continual improvement?
- What procedures and protocols should be involved as we encourage specialization and collaboration? Specifically, what procedures should be in place related to cross contracts and service partnerships?



## Strategic Partnerships

### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Began exploring partnerships with the NYSED, the NYS Broadband Program Office, and public libraries. Specifically, implemented strategic planning meetings with David Salway, Director of the NYS Broadband Program Office, and Bernard Margolis, State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries.
- Provided assistance to the NYSED and the Division of Budget, as requested, related to the Smart School Initiative.

### 2015-2016 Goals

- As 85% of school buildings participating in RIC supported networks have broadband capacity of 100 MB or higher, explore opportunities to expand regional networks in order to support other agencies', such as public libraries, efforts to provide comparable services.
- Provide assistance to the Smart Schools Review Board and New York State school districts, as the state implements the Smart Schools Bond Act.
- Explore new partnerships with NYSCATE, ISTE, CoSN and other technology leadership organizations.

### Guiding Questions

- Are there other key stakeholders the RICs should be meeting with?



### Economies of Scale

#### 2014-2015 Accomplishments

- Continued to work collaboratively on bids, RFPs, and contracts that addressed statewide needs.
- As the timelines associated with the \$12M Mobile IT Device RTTT Program were aggressive, CNYRIC's cooperative bidding service was critically important.
- New Ed-Law 2-d related language needed to be infused into numerous contracts this year. WNYRIC Instructional Software Cooperative Bidding Service lightened the burden placed on individual centers.

#### 2015-2016 Goals

- Continue to work collaboratively on bids, RFPs and contracts that address statewide needs.

#### Guiding Questions

- How might RICs collaborate more effectively, as we strive to offer high-quality and cost-effective technologies and services?